Alberta Finance
Economic Bulletin

ECONOMIC STATISTICS RELEASED DURING THE WEEK OF APRIL 15, 2002 TO APRIL 19, 2002

	Reference Period	Month/Previous Month (m/m)	Month/Previous Year's Month (y/y)	Comments
Monthly Survey of Manufacturing ($ millions)	February			Canadian manufacturing shipments increased 0.8% in February to $42.1 billion. The increase was mostly due to higher motor vehicle shipments. As well, manufacturers drew down inventories 0.1%, the ninth consecutive decline. This helped the inventory to shipments ratio to decline to 1.47, its lowest level in just over a year. Alberta manufacturing shipments fell 0.7% in February and were down 11.8% on a year-over-year basis.
Alberta	3,254	-0.7%	-0.4%	
Canada	42,092	0.8%	-11.8%	
New Motor Vehicle Sales	February			New motor vehicle sales in Canada edged down slightly in February. However, February sales were up 16.6% from a year ago, and were at one of the highest levels in 25 years. Manitoba (3.9%) led the provinces in sales gains in February, followed by Saskatchewan (3.7%) and Alberta (0.8%).
Alberta	17,799	0.8%	23.1%	
Canada	146,386	-0.4%	16.6%	
Travel between Canada and other countries ('000s)	February			Travel from Canada to other countries declined slightly in February. 3.2 million Canadians travelled to other countries, which represented a 5.2% decrease from January and was significantly below pre-September 11 levels. About 9 out of 10 of those trips were to the US. Travel to Canada from other countries, however, rose in February. A total of 3.8 million travellers came to Canada in February, 0.6% more than January but 10.0% less than February 2001.
Canadian trips abroad	3,219	-5.2%	-17.2%	
Travel to Canada	3,815	0.6%	-10.0%	
Wholesale Trade ($ millions)	February			Wholesale trade rose 2.0% in February to $33.3 billion, up 5.7% from a year ago. Eight of eleven sectors saw advances in sales, including automotive products (7.6%) and lumber and building materials (5.8%). Wholesale trade in Alberta decreased 1.1% in February to $3.4 billion, but was up 3.6% from February 2001.
Alberta	3,414	-1.1%	3.6%	
Canada	33,281	2.0%	5.7%	